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Approved For Release 2004/03/26 : CIA-RDP78B05703A000200030013-7

NPIC/TSG-103-70

87 OCT 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Photographic
Interpretation Center

SUBJECT : Request for Approval of [] from R&D
Funds for an Overrun to Contract No.

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1. This memorandum requests approval for the commitment of additional funds for an existing contract. The specific request is stated in Paragraph 8.

2. NPIC currently has a cost-plus-fixed-fee contract with [] to fabricate a Target Indexing Device (TID) and an Electronic Screening Breadboard (ESB). This effort currently totals []. This equipment will provide NPIC with the capability of rapidly and automatically scanning [] film in order to specify those targets that are cloud covered or cloud free. Furthermore, when operating in the general analysis mode, the equipment will permit an accurate determination of the percent of cloud cover of an area on a frame-by-frame basis.

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3. The subject overrun is the result of a series of difficulties that have occurred during the check-out and debugging of the TID. Specifically, these problems have been:

a. Several random errors in the Honeywell DDP-516 controlling computer.

b. A series of timing/synchronization difficulties.

c. The delivery of the collimating and transform lenses with the improper anti-reflective coatings.

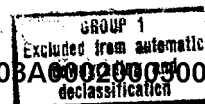
d. Instability of the basic clue measurements due to noise and bandwidth problems in the amplifiers.

e. Slight shifting of the sampling points causing shutter interference in the sampling aperture.

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Declass Review by NGA

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4. The TID is now operating, but unsatisfactorily due to the high incidence of reflected light from the improperly coated lenses. This reflectance results in cloud being read as detail in many cases thus causing the TID decisions to be inaccurate. It appears that all of the other problems have been eliminated except for the receipt and installation of the new lenses--scheduled for 27 October.

5. We believe that the overrun is justifiable. The problems that have occurred are typical of those usually encountered during the check-out and debugging of a new and technically complex device. However, the figure of [] is contingent upon the shipment of the new lenses by 27 October. Furthermore, it is a best estimate and assumes that no other problems will emerge after the installation of the new lenses. Any violation of these assumptions would incur additional costs. We would prefer to delay the decision on the additional funding until we have had the opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the installation of the new lenses, but the contractor will be out of money before this can be done. It should be noted that the [] plus the previous overrun of [] (due to increased material costs only) totals only slightly less than 7% of the current contract amount of []

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6. The contractor has submitted his request for additional funds as an overrun of [] and as a change-in-scope of [] Except for a portion of the special shipping costs and the cost of maintaining Litton personnel, [], at NPIC for one week for training personnel in the operation of the TID, we see nothing, from a technical point of view, to justify any change-in-scope. However, this is a matter that OL is in a better position to decide and/or negotiate.

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7. The Project Officer for this contract is Mr. [] The contract association is SECRET, the title UNCLASSIFIED, and the work SECRET.

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8. In view of the progress to date and the urgent
Center requirement for the TID your approval for the
authorization of [] from past R&D funds is requested.

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[]
Chief, Technical Services Group, NPIC

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Attachments:

1. Proposal
2. Form 2420

25X1

27 OCT 1970

APPROVED:

ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL

Date

Director

National Photographic Interpretation Center

Distribution:

Original - NPIC/SS/SC&PB (After approval)

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